developmental projects and proposals should be formulated by the States and considered within the framework of such an overall plan for a basin or sub-basin, so that the best possible combination of options can be made.

It further states that appropriate organisations should be established for the planned development and management of a over basin as a whole. Special multi-disciplinary units should be set up in each State to prepare comprehesive plans taking into account not only the needs of irrigation but also harmonising various other water uses.

Accordingly, Central Water Commission advised all State Governments including Bihar to take up preparation of river basin Master Plans as per guidelines and available data in June, 1990. Further the States were also advised in July, 1990 to set up multi-disciplinary unit to facilitate preparation of comprehensive Master plans.

[*English*]

Ban on Shooting of Indian Films Abroad

3028. SHRI N.K. BALIYAN:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:
SHRIMATI RITA VERMA:

Will the Minister of INF ORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to ban the location shooting abroad by Indian films producers as a measure to check out flow of foreign exchange;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c) Foreign exchange for shooting abroad is released on the condition that he producer would repatriate in foreign exchange twice the amount released to him and equal the amount of cost of passage fare and freight expenses of the team. Thus there is earning of foreign exchange.

Fibre-Optic Submarine Cable

3029. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount being contributed by India for laying the fibre-optic submarine cable from Singaprore to France;

(b) what is the life of this type of cable;

(c) the benefits accruing to India from this cable laying;

(d) which are other major cable projects in which India is participating and their technical and financial implications;

(e) the steps being taken by the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited towards marketing of satellite-based communication services for maritime consumers and the package of incentives evolved to popularise the service; and

(f) the amount paid by the Videsh Sanchar Nigam towards its membership of INMARSAT and how far it is commensurate with the utilisation of its services?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN TH

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) India's share of the South East Asia-Middle East-Western Europe-2 Submarine Cable (SEA-ME-WE2) Project cost is approx. Rs. 187.46 crores (72.1 million US Dollars) out of the total Project Cost of US $ 687 Million.

(b) The life of the cable system is 25 (Twenty Five) Years.

(c) India will get following benefits:

1. 2700 additional International digital cirucuits on the cable Media to meet the future growth.

2. This cable will enabl VSNL to provide reliable, delay-free, high quality cirucits on the Cable media to various destinations around the world.

3. This will help in improving the reliability of international telecom services due to availability of alternate transmission media through cable and satellite.

(d) There are no other major international cable projects at present on the anvil other than SEA-ME-WE-2.

(e) Videsh Sanchar Nigam is setting up a Land Earth Station at Arvi near Pune at a cost of Rs. 22 crores to provide maritime INMARSAT (Standars A) services in the Indian ocean region. This project is expected to be completed by the middle of 1992.

With the commissioning of the project, the maritime consumers will be benefited (i) A reduction in Tariff for ship-to-shore to ship telephone and telex calls. (ii) Better and faster communications between ships and land destinations.

Videsh Sanchar Nigam is spreasing the awareness and marketing these services with the help of 'INMARSAT' by holding seminars and live demonstrations in India.

(f) Videsh Sanchar Nigam has paid approx. 1.162 million US Dollars towards its share which is 0.439% of INMARSAT total share capital. The current utilisation is 0.3569 percent and is likely to go up after commissioning of India's land Earth Station.

PCOs and Telephone Exchanges set up in Vadodara, Gujarat

3030. SHRIMATI DIPAKA H. TOPIWALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of public call offices and telephone exchange set up in a Vadodara District of Gujarat during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): 37 public call offices and 2 Telephone Exchanges as per given below:

Year	*PCOs*	*Telephone Exchanges*
1989-90	7	1
1990-91	Nil	Nil